

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION~~

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

# INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY USSR/Germany (Soviet Zone)

DATE DISTR. *12* May 1952

SUBJECT Soviet Officer Training, (GOFG)

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PLACE  
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS 2  
(LISTED BELOW) (A) - 2 pages  
(B) 1 page

DATE  
ACQUIRED

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.  

DATE OF IN

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25X1A

**SOURCE**

1. The training year in the Soviet Army in Germany lasts from 1 May to 30 April of the next year. I do not know whether the same training year is valid in USSR. The training year is divided as follows: Also see [redacted] in which the same source divided the year differently.
- (a) The summer training period starts on 1 May and ends on 31 October. September is the month of maneuvers and October is reserved for the autumn inspection after which troops return to their winter quarters.
- (b) The preparatory period (Podgotovitelnyy Period), lasts through the month of November. This time is devoted to conservation of equipment for winter storage and preparations for the winter training period.
- (c) The winter training period starts on 1 December and ends on 30 April. The period from 10-20 April is reserved for spring inspection. Around 20 April troops move to summer training camps for the new training year.

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

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## SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-2-

25X1A

2. Like the training of enlisted personnel, officer training is conducted throughout the entire training year. The purpose is to keep officers thoroughly familiar with subjects in which they have to instruct their subordinates, to acquaint them with new tactical doctrines, weapons and equipment and their technical application, manuals and army regulations. The general idea is to prepare officers for the next commanding position on the army ladder.
3. There are two officer training courses every year:
  - (a) Summer Training Course, three months, from 1 May to 31 July;
  - (b) Winter Training Course, four months, from 1 December to 31 March.

These courses are organized in all regiments and separate battalions. During those periods three eight-hour days per month are devoted to lectures and instruction for all unit officers. This means that the summer course consists of 72 hrs of instruction and the winter course of 96 hrs.

4. For the summer and winter training two separate officer schools are organized within the main armed branches such as infantry, artillery, tanks, etc:
  - (a) School for company (battery) commanders
  - (b) School for platoon leaders

Instructors in these schools are usually senior officers of the regiment or separate battalion (regimental commander, some of his deputies, chief of staff and some specialized officers for technical subjects).

5. The plans and programs for officer training schools are prepared by GOFG Hqs and sent through channels to regiments and separate battalions. The program prescribes the following subjects:
  - (a) Political instruction: Marx-Lenin Indoctrination;
  - (b) Tactics: Study of Armed Forces Field Manual 1948; tactics of the main armed branches with emphasis on the branch to which the unit belongs;
  - (c) Technical training: Nomenclature of weapons and equipment in unit's T/E; experiences, suggestions for improvements in practical use and in training of enlisted personnel;
  - (d) Firing training (artillery or infantry): Various firing problems with the guns in unit's T/E;
  - (e) Automotive training: Nomenclature of motor vehicles and their operation.

The program of summer training for officers of small caliber AAA units is given in Enclosures (A) and (B).7

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

## SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-3-

25X1A

6. In addition to the summer and winter school training, officers have to undergo the following periodic training:
- (a) Three two hour periods weekly: artillery (infantry) firing training on miniature range, combined with various problems;
  - (b) Two one hour periods weekly: physical training and pistol firing practice;
  - (c) Two four hour periods weekly are reserved for familiarization of officers (samopodgotovka) with the army manuals, regulations, and tactics. This type of training is supervised by the unit's commanding officer or his chief of staff, but it is not conducted in the form of lectures or instructions. Instead, it is left for every individual to decide what subjects he wants to study each time. This is actually time for officers' self-training. Usually three or four officers combine into small groups, working together on one particular subject such as reading manuals and regulations, and clarifying their ideas through group discussions. At least once a month officers are given written problems on material contained in manuals. This is done by regimental (separate battalion) commanders in accordance with the War Ministry Directive 0085 of August 1951 [redacted], and the ability of the individual officer to solve these problems forms the basis for his monthly efficiency rating. In addition, unit commanders conduct a monthly oral examination of all officers on Soviet Army manuals and regulations. Regimental and separate battalion commanders are given similar problems by divisional commanders.
7. Obligatory examination of officers is conducted by GOFG during the spring and fall inspections at which time each individual is examined in the following fields:
- (a) Soviet Armed Forces Field Manual 1948
  - (b) Weapons and Equipment in unit's T/E
  - (c) Automotive Training
  - (d) Pistol Firing
  - (e) Physical Endurance

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Enclosure (A): Battery Commanders, Summer Training Program  
(B): Platoon Leaders, Summer Training Program

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

Enclosure (A)

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

Page 1-

25X1A

Program  
Officers' Combat Training School  
Small Caliber Anti-Aircraft Artillery Units  
1952 Training Year, Summer Periods

1. School for Battery Commanders

Subjects

1.. Political Instruction	18 hours
2. Tactics	20 hours
3.. Firing Training	16 hours
4. Technical Training	10 hours
5. Automotive Training	8 hours
Total:	<u>72 hours</u>

Detailed Program

1. Political Instruction:

Problem #1: Marxist ideology and national-colonization problem	8 hours
Problem #2: American and British imperialists as deadly enemies of the Soviet Union and promoters of aggressive war against USSR	6 hours
Problem #3: What kind of state is our Fatherland, the USSR	4 hours

2. Tactics:

Problem #1: Tactical use of a small caliber AA battery within its organic battalion covering units of a division in attack	6 hours
Problem #2: Tactical use of a small caliber AA battery within its organic battalion covering units of a division in defense	4 hours
Problem #3: Tactical use of a small caliber AA battery within its organic battalion covering units of a division at a river crossing	4 hours
Problem #4: Familiarization with provisions of Soviet Armed Forces Field Manual 1948: Attack and defense in the main armed branches	6 hours

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

Enclosure (A) (C) (S)  
Page -2-

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1A

3. Firing Training:

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| Problem #1: | Firing at aerial targets in horizontal flight                        | 3 hours |
| Problem #2: | Firing at diving and combat support planes                           | 2 hours |
| Problem #3: | Firing from the moving column and firing at parachute landing forces | 2 hours |
| Problem #4: | Barrage fire   | 6 hours |
| Problem #5: | Firing at ground targets   | 3 hours |

4. Technical Training:

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|-------------|--|---------|
| Problem #1: | Nomenclature, assembly and disassembly of the gun's automatic breach mechanism (prinimayushchaya chast' snaryada), its purpose and its operation                   | 2 hours |
| Problem #2: | Nomenclature, assembly and disassembly of weapons and equipment. Conservation of weapons and equipment for winter storage. Upkeep and maintenance in summer camps. | 2 hours |
| Problem #3: | Nomenclature, assembly and disassembly of 37 mm gun automatic sight. Principles of operation.  | 6 hours |

5. Automotive Training:

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|-------------|---|---------|
| Problem #1: | Organizing parking lots in summer camps. Maintenance of motor vehicles under camp conditions. | 2 hours |
| Problem #2: | Cross-country driving   | 6 hours |

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

Enclosure (B)  
Page 1-

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1A

Program  
Officers Combat Training School  
Small Caliber Anti-Aircraft Artillery Units  
1952 Training Year, Summer Period

2. School for Platoon Leaders

Subjects

/Same as for battery commanders, Enclosure A/

Detailed Program

1. Political Instruction: /The Same as for battery commanders/ 18 hours
2. Tactics:
  - Problem #1: Composition and tasks of the advanced battery commander's (peredovoy komandirskiy raz'yezd) 2 hours
  - Problem #2: Tactical use of a firing platoon within small caliber AA battery covering units in an attack 4 hours
  - Problem #3: Tactical use of a firing platoon within small caliber AA battery covering units on defense positions 4 hours
  - Problem #4: Tactical use of a firing platoon within small caliber AA battery covering units at a river crossing 4 hours
  - Problem #5: Familiarization with provisions of Soviet Armed Forces Manual 1948: Attack and defense in the main armed branches 6 hours
3. Firing Training: /The same as for battery commanders/ 16 hours
4. Technical Training: /The same as for battery commanders/ 10 hours
5. Automotive Training: /The same as for battery commanders/ 8 hours

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